

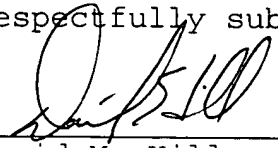
REMARKS

Applicant has not cancelled claims 15-40 and 50 for any "reasons relating to patentability" as discussed by the Federal Circuit in Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 234 F.3d 558; 2000 U.S. App. LEXIS 29979; 56 U.S.P.Q.2D (BNA) 1865 (Fed.Cir. Nov. 29, 2000), cert. granted, June 18, 2001, Reported at: 2001 U.S. LEXIS 4495. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute all cancelled claims in one or more continuation applications.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the present invention represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.

Date: February 11, 2002

Respectfully submitted,



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